e-communique

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Welcome to the platform that gives you up-to-date information in the field of climate change adaptation (CCA). This monthly newsletter is brought to you by the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) – the leading climate change adaptation network in the Asia-Pacific region. Our primary goal is to assist countries to build climate change resilient and sustainable human systems, ecosystems, and economies.

We will be happy to spotlight your CCA activities, announcements, events and new initiatives. All you have to do is send a brief write-up and URL to info@asiapacificadapt.net

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

COP19 Side Event: Networking for Adaptation Knowledge & Action in Asia-Pacific by APAN, Warsaw, Poland, November 18, 2013

APAN was showcased at the 19th Conference of Parties (COP19) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Warsaw, Poland as an example that has driven the adaptation agenda closer to the expectations of its stakeholders, while addressing the adaptation needs of vulnerable communities and updating its programme to suit evolving demands. Approximately 35 people participated. The event included presentations from three of the five sub regions APAN is active in, namely South Asia, Northeast Asia and the Pacific. The discussions focused on the need for adaptation networks, their role in knowledge management and capacity building and also the effectiveness of delivery. For more information, please visit: http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/events/cop19-side-event-networking-adaptation-knowledge-action-asia-pacific-asia-pacific-adaptation

CAREC – APAN’s sub-regional node for Central Asia – organised a sub-regional annual conference on the role of public-private partnerships (PPP) in adaptation practices linking agriculture, water and forest management. This conference was aimed at linking expertise in adaptation projects with the involvement of PPPs. It served as a platform for introducing key actors and relevant stakeholders to the possibilities of adapting to climate change through the mechanism of PPP. There was a high-level of interest among the private sector and national economic development agencies present, indicating an encouraging direction for the sub-region and a prospective field where opportunities can be pursued. For more information, please visit: http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/events/sub-regional-annual-conference-role-ppp-adaptation-practices-linking-agriculture-water-and

APAN and ICIMOD along with other partners organised this workshop with over 45 participants from national and provincial governments of the HKH mountainous countries, globally recognised climate experts, researchers, and media attending. Workshop participants agreed that there is a need for improved communications and dissemination of concise and approachable scientific messages for the lay audience. Scientists must also have direct communication with policymakers, they added, and communication is two ways. Dialogues between policymakers and scientists should therefore be initiated through the policy section of government agencies. For more information, please visit http://www.asiapacificadapt.net/events/supporting-climate-change-adaptation-policy-and-action-hkh-region-strengthening-communication
Sub-Regional Conference of South Asian Parliamentarians and Policymaker’s on framing Adaptation Strategies, Islamabad, Pakistan, December 16-18 2013

The Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA), as the South Asian sub regional node for APAN, organised a three day conference that brought together members of parliament, government representatives, and civil society experts across the region to deliberate on the cross cutting issues that form the core of regional climate policies. Particularly, participants looked at how to link national and local actions with regional strategies and policy impacts. The conference helped build the capacity of policy makers through sharing of knowledge, skills and resources across South Asia to address climate change. For more information, please visit:

UPCOMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION EVENTS

Philippines Network of Educators on Environment (PNEE) 7th International Conference and Scientific Meeting: Traditional, Local Environmental Knowledge and Practices to Address Climate Change Impacts, Lucban, Quezon, Philippines, May 12-14, 2014

This three-day conference will bring together teachers, students, researchers, extension workers, community leaders, and other participants from different sectors to present and discuss their experiences and methods in integrating traditional, local environmental knowledge in their instruction, research and training activities. The conference also shares projections on climate change impacts such as intense rainfall and temperature rise. The application deadline for paper presentation is January 31, 2014. For more information, please contact Ms. Vangie L. Alcantara of the PNEE Secretariat ((049) 536-2251 or eenp_inc@yahoo.com).

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION NEWS

Live Online Chat - Facing Nature’s Wrath: Dealing with Climate Change and Its Effects

ADB initiated this online chat, realising that extreme weather events like the Typhoon Haiyan are a wake-up call for urgent and immediate actions not only on integrated disaster risk management, but also on addressing climate change. This chat raised the following questions:

- What practical steps can be taken to address climate change?
- What can countries like the Philippines do to increase their resilience to climate impacts and limit the damage of typhoons, floods, and tsunamis?
- What lessons can be learned from the natural disasters that have afflicted Asia and the Pacific region?

CCA INFORMATION RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

PUBLICATIONS

New SEA Change / UKCIP publication “Monitoring & evaluation for climate change adaptation: A synthesis of tools, frameworks and approaches”

This report represents a synthesis and summary of frameworks for the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of climate change adaptation interventions, with a focus on international development projects and programs. The authors compiled a comprehensive collection of monitoring and evaluation tools, frameworks, and approaches, and reviewed them thoughtfully. With this manual, programme managers, policymakers, and researchers can easily identify which materials would be most useful to them. It also identifies gaps and challenges that need to be addressed in the rapidly-evolving adaptation field. For more information, please visit http://www.seachangecop.org/node/2588

OPPORTUNITIES

The Oxford Adaptation Academy: applications for August 2014

GCAP – the Global Climate Adaptation Partnership and the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment – at the University of Oxford will bring together world experts in a programme that integrates the technical and leadership skill needed to take forward adaptation. Participants will progress current project drawings in its core teaching modules, case studies and their interaction with others from diverse countries and disciplines. Organisations that have previously send participants include UN Framework Convention, UNEP, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, UNDP. For more information, please visit www.climateadaptation.cc/adaptationacademy

Asia Development Fellows: Emerging Leadership for Asia’s Future

The Asia Foundation is currently seeking highly qualified young professionals from Asia to join its inaugural 2014 cohort. The Asia Development Fellows program brings together next-generation Asian leaders interested in the region’s social and economic development challenges. The program will enable professionals to engage in intensive learning modules and leadership development while providing flexibility for Fellows to stay in their current occupations. The 2014 program will be conducted in Singapore, Philippines, San Francisco, and Washington D.C. Fellows also receive a flexible small grant of US$ 5,000. The deadline for applications is December 15, 2013. For more information, please visit www.asiafoundation.org/developmentfellows